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SUBJ: TORONTO STAR SIGNED COLUMN WHICH DECRIES ANTI-
AMERICANISM AND THE QUOTE BIG LIE UNQUOTE ABOUT
AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

1. THE WEDNESDAY 28 APRIL 1976 ISSUE OF THE NATIONALISTIC
TORONTO STAR HAS A COLUMN ENTITLED QUOTE THE BIG LIE ABOUT

THE U.S. -- AND HOW IT GREW AND GREW. UNQUOTE. WRITTEN BY
ROBERT NIELSEN, A STAR STAFF WRITER AND MEMBER OF THE
EDITORIAL BOARD, THE COLUMN ARGUES THAT THE UNITED STATES
HAS COME TO BE SEEN AS QUOTE THE PRIME VILLAIN IN WORLD AFFAIRS...
BUT THE U.S. HAS NOT, BY ITS OWN ACTIONS COME CLOSE TO
EARNING THE AMOUNT OF ABUSE HEAPED ON IT IN THE THIRD WORLD.
UNQUOTE.

2. MR. NIELSEN ATTRIBUTES PART OF THIS ANTI-AMERICAN
SENTIMENT IN THE WORLD TO THE BARRAGE OF COMMUNIST PARTY
PROPAGANDA IN THE PAST 25 YEARS, PART OF IT TO THE ENVY OF
THE HAVE-NOT NATIONS FOR THE WEALTH AND POWER OF THE U.S.
AND SOME PART TO U.S. ACTIONS ABROAD: SUPPORT OF ISRAEL;
QUOTE COVERT ACTIONS TOWARD THE OVERTHROW OF THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT
IN CHILE UNQUOTE; AMBIVALENT SUPPORT OF SOUTH AFRICA:
LEANINGS TOWARDS PAKISTAN IN ITS WAR WITH INDIA: AND OF COURSE,
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VIETNAM. AS WELL, QUOTE A LOT OF MANGY DICTATORSHIPS AND ONE-

PARTY REGIMES WOULD BE UNDERMINED IF THEIR PEOPLE
COULD MAKE TRUE COMPARISONS WITH THE BIGGEST DEMOCRACY; SO IT
PROFITS THEIR RULES (SIX?) TO SLANDER THE U.S. UNQUOTE.

3. BUT HE NOTES SADLY THAT FACTORS WITHIN THE U.S. HAVE ALSO QUOTE
HELPED DISCREDIT THE MAIN CHAMPION OF FREEDOM. UNQUOTE. THE OPEN
ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND QUOTE THE CRITICAL,
NEGATIVE TRADITION OF WESTERN JOURNALISM UNQUOTE WHICH FOCUSES
ONLY UPON WHAT IS WRONG, NEVER GOOD, IN AMERICAN EVENTS, COMBINE
TO GIVE A QUOTE DISTORTED UNQUOTE AND UNFAVORABLE PICTURE. HE SAYS
THAT THIS DISTORTION IS QUOTE INNOCENT BUT WE (JOURNALISTS) COULD
DO MORE BY WAY OF COMMENTARY TO REDRESS THE BALANCE AND WE COULD
REMIND THE PUBLIC MORE OFTEN THAT THE PICTURE IS NECESSARILY ONE-
SIDED BECAUSE OF THE DISPARITY IN ACCESS TO THE NEWS, UNQUOTE,
DISPARITY IN ACCESS BY COMPARISON WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA.
WHILE FIRST RESPONSIBILITY GOES TO JOURNALISTS, TEACHERS AND ACADEMIC
S
ALSO HAVE CONTRIBUTED. TEACHERS HAVE FAILS TO TEACH THEIR STUDENTS
THE FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN CITIZENS' RIGHTS IN THE U.S. AND CANAD
A
AND THE SOVIET UNION ON THE OTHER SIDE; REVISIONIST HISTORIANS
QUOTE HAVE SELECTED AND REARRANGED THE EVENTS OF THE EARLY POST-
WAR PERIOD TO MAKE THE PREPOSTEROUS CASE THAT THE UNITED STATES
LAUNCHED THE COLD WAR WITHOUT SERIOUS PROVOCATION FROM THE SOVIET
SIDE...THE UNITED STATES, NOTWITHSTANDING GRIEVOUS ERRORS AND
FAULTS AND OCCASION VILLAINIES, IS COMMITTED BY ITS WHOLE
HISTORY TO FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS. THE SOVIET UNION, ONT ITS
RECORD, IS INEXORABLY BENT ON THE DESTRUCTION OF THOSE RIGHTS.
UNQUOTE. MR. NIELSEN SUMS UP THE ARTICLE: QUOTE FOR DEMOCRATS
OF EVERY PERSUASION - LIBERAL, SOCIALIST OR CONSERVATIVE - ANTI-
AMERICANISM HAS BECOME A COSTLY INDULGENCE. UNQUOTE.

4. ROBERT NIELSEN IS A FORMER NIEMANN FELLOW AT HARVARD AND A
1975 RECIPIENT OF THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER AWARD FOR A TORONTO STAR
SERIES ON UNEMPLOYMENT. FIFTY YEARS OLD, HE HAS
BEEN WITH THE TORONTO STAR FOR ABOUT 25 YEARS, IS
A MEMBER OF THE STAR EDITORIAL BOARD, OCCASIONAL EDITOR OF THE
EDITORIAL PAGE, AND TWO WEEKS AGO BECAME A REGULAR WEDNESDAY
COLUMNIST FOR THAT PAPER. MR. NIELSEN IS A HIGHLY RESPECTED
JOURNALIST WITH A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN SOCIAL ISSUES; HE IS
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CONSIDERED VERY PRO-U.S., VIOLENTLY ANTI-COMMUNIST.

5. THE CLIPPING IS BEING SENT UNDER SEPARATE COVER.
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